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- (d) & (e) Several of these officers had served for long periods as temporary Assistant Surgeons. They had been selected for temporary appointments on account of their high qualifications and had a very good record in the department. They were therefore considered fit for permanent appointment to the service without competitive examination. In certain other cases, the appointments were made by promotion from the grade of Sub-Assistant Surgeons. The suspension of the competitive examination for assistant surgery was not intended to affect the arrangement under which experienced Sub-Assistant Surgeons are, in special cases, promoted to be Assistant Surgeons.
- (f) Officers who returned with an unsatisfactory military record were not provided with appointments. All other officers who performed war service and applied for appointments have been provided with them.

Public Health

Free distribution of quinine.

* 881 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: With reference to my question No. 220 answered on 26th August 1927, will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to place before the Council the detailed proposals by the Director of Public Health for the consideration of the Government in connexion with new schemes in 1928-29 for free distribution of quinine and the orders passed by Government?

A.—No. The question is still under the consideration of the Government.

The water-supply scheme of Rajahmundry Municipality.

* 882 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

- (a) for how long the plans and estimates for protected water-supply of Rajahmundry Municipality have been under preparation;
- (b) when they are likely to be completed;
- (c) whether Government are aware that there is agitation by a section of the people that the water and drainage tax should not be paid before the work is actually commenced;
- (d) whether any provision will be made during the current year to grant to this municipality the amount that may be required to carry on the work; and
- (e) whether it is a fact that the Government promised to commence the work during the current year?

A.—(a) & (b) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to the answer given to question No. 622 asked at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 28th March 1927. The Sanitary Engineer has reported that the preparation of the detailed plans and estimates for the scheme cannot be completed before October 1927.

(c) No.

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- (d) The question of providing funds for the execution of the scheme will be considered as soon as the scheme is ready for execution.
- (e) No such promise has been made.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Constitution of Districts, Divisions and Taluks

Addition of the Podili and Darsi divisions of Nellore to the Guntur district.

883 Q.—Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) why the proposal to add the Podili and Darsi divisions of Nellore to Guntur district was abandoned by the Government; and

(b) whether in view of the great inaccessibility of these parts from Nellore and Kandukur headquarters, the Government will be pleased to reconsider the desirability of joining them to Ongole and Narasaraopet divisions of Guntur district now?

A.—(a) The proposal was originally made as a measure of economy and was abandoned as it was found that there would be no saving and as objections to the transfer were raised by the residents of the divisions and the authorities consulted.

(b) The Government have no reason to believe that the fact is as alleged and do not propose to reopen the question.

Court of Wards

Sale of certain lands in Veniamangalam and Aharam villages in Arni Jaghir.

884 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Estate Collector of North Arcot has ordered the sale of lands extending to 45 cawnies in Veniamangalam and Aharam villages in Arni Jaghir in North Arcot district by transferring them from 'poramboke' to 'assessed waste';

(b) whether it is a fact that these lands were granted by the Jaghirdar to the villages in No. 683 as pasture poramboke specially for the purpose of cattle-grazing;

(c) whether it is a fact that the people objected to this proposed sale; and

(d) whether Government will be pleased to enquire into the matter?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have no knowledge of the case referred to.

(d) The Government do not propose to take the action suggested by the hon. Member. The administration of the Arni Jaghir is under the control of the Court of Wards to whom any person considering himself aggrieved by any action of the Estate Collector should appeal.